

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10. (canceled).

Claim 11. (currently amended): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network, a method comprising the steps of:

providing a time-slot oriented data format, formed from a periodic sequence of channel-specific information segments, for data transmission between the communications devices, the data format having information segments for transmitting signaling information, information segments for transmitting user data information, and information segments for transmitting data-format-specific information;

transmitting the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information in first data packets which are intended for data transmission via the packet-oriented communications network; ~~and~~

transmitting the information segments intended for transmitting the user data information in second information segments which are intended for ~~transmitting the data-format-specific information, using second data packets which are intended for~~ data transmission via the packet-oriented communications network; and

transmitting the information segments intended for transmitting the data-format-specific information in third data packets that are intended for data transmission via the packet-oriented communications network.

Claim 12. (currently amended): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 11, wherein the ~~second~~ information segments intended for transmitting the data-format-specific information and the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information are transmitted jointly in the first data packets.

Claim 13. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 12, the method further comprising the step of:

subdividing the first data packets into at least two packet elements, the second information segments being transmitted in the first packet element, and the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information being transmitted in the second packet element.

Claim 14. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 13, wherein each of the first and second packet elements have a cell header with a length identification, the length identification defining a number of data items transmitted in the respective packet element.

Claim 15. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 11, wherein the timeslot-oriented data format is the standardized IOM-2 data format.

Claim 16. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 11, wherein the data transmission via the packet-oriented communications network takes place on the basis of the ATM data format.

Claim 17. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 16, wherein the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information are transmitted via the packet-oriented communications network in data packets designed in accordance with the fifth ATM adaptation layer agreement.

Claim 18. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 16, wherein the information segments intended for transmitting the user data information are transmitted via the packet-oriented communications network in data packets designed in accordance with the first ATM adaptation layer agreement.

Claim 19. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 11, wherein the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information are transmitted via an existing tie line in the packet-oriented communications network.

Claim 20. (previously presented): A method for data transmission between communications devices via a packet-oriented communications network as claimed in claim 11, wherein the information segments intended for transmitting the signaling information are transmitted via a packet-oriented communications network using a connection which is set up, specifically for this data transmission, between the communications devices.